



CITY SNIPPETS

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HICKORY CLIMBS RANKINGS IN LATEST REPORT

Hickory, North Carolina ranks among the country's best places to live and takes the lead as America's most affordable metro, according to a new report released by U.S. News.

U.S. News analyzed the 150 most populous metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) to find the best places to live and released the new 2022-2023 rankings on Tuesday. To make the top of the list, a place had to have good value, be a desirable place to live, have a strong job market, and provide a high quality of life.

With a low cost of living, the Hickory MSA ranked No. 1 in Most Affordable Places to Live in the United States. This ranking is based on the median gross rent and annual housing costs for mortgage-paying homeowners of each metro area.



"Hickory offers a high quality of life and an affordable cost of living for residents. This makes our community a desirable place to live and we're experiencing steady growth as more and more people realize its value and choose Hickory as their home," said Hickory Mayor Hank Guess.

In addition to ranking at the top of the list for affordability, Hickory moved up 21 spaces to become No. 31 in Best Places to Live in the United States. Hickory also moved up 2 spaces to rank No. 3 in Best Places to Live in North Carolina.

"The City's investments in the bond program are driving more economic growth and development in the area, and that is also resulting in more housing opportunities," added Guess. "Investing in job creating ventures like Trivium Corporate Center and quality of life amenities like the Hickory Trail is doing exactly what we intended, and we're excited to see what the future holds for Hickory as we work together with our regional partners to continue crafting a stronger, more vibrant community."

To review the full 2022-2023 U.S. News & World Report Best Places to Live rankings report, visit <https://realestate.usnews.com/places>. Learn more about Hickory's rankings at <https://realestate.usnews.com/places/north-carolina/hickory>.

CITY OF HICKORY & YMCA SWIM PARTNERSHIP

Through a partnership with the Hickory Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism Department, the Hickory Foundation YMCA offers free swim lessons to City of Hickory residents aged 6 months to 12 years old. To be eligible for registration, City of Hickory residents must complete a Residency Verification Form and provide a copy of their Birth Certificate, if under the age of 18. Verification forms are available at the Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism Department Administrative Offices (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and Brown Penn Recreation Center (11 a.m. to 7 p.m.) on a first-come, first-served basis

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ADDRESS

76 North Center Street

WEBSITE

HickoryNC.gov

PHONE

828.323.7400

ISSUE

June 2022

HICKORY CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 19 | 7 p.m.
Julian G. Whitener
Municipal Building (City Hall)
HickoryNC.gov



INDEPENDENCE DAY CLOSURES

Monday, July 4
City Offices, Libraries, and
Recreation Centers **CLOSED**



**7 BILLION ONES: A RANDY
BACON RETROSPECTIVE**
Open Through September 11
Hickory Museum of Art
Sponsored by: City of Hickory
and Hickory Community
Relations Council
HickoryArt.org

**DOWNTOWN HICKORY
FARMERS MARKET**
Saturdays: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Wednesdays: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
The Sails on the Square
HickoryFarmersMarket.com

FAMILY FILM FRIDAYS
Friday, July 8: Paddington
Friday, July 22: The Iron Giant
7 p.m.
Union Square

BILLY JONAS BAND
Friday, July 15
6:30 p.m.
Union Square, Downtown

DOGGIE OLYMPICS
Saturday, July 16
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Fairbrook Optimist Dog Park

For more events, check
www.HickoryEventsCalendar.com



Follow us on social media:



Monday through Friday. Once a City resident has the verification form, they will register at the Hickory Foundation YMCA.

Summer Session 1: Register May 23-28.
Classes will be held Monday-Thursday,
June 6-16 (8 lessons).

Summer Session 2: Register June 6-11.
Classes will be held Monday-Thursday,
June 20-30 (8 lessons).

Summer Session 3: Register June 27-July
2. Classes will be held Monday-Thursday,
July 11-21 (8 lessons).

Summer Session 4: Register July 11-16.
Classes will be held Monday-Thursday, July 25-August 4 (8 lessons).

Fall Session: Register September 26-October 1. Classes will be held Saturdays,
October 15-December 3 with the exception of Saturday, November 12 and 19
(6 lessons).

For more information, please contact Recreation & Special Events Coordinator
Angela Carson at 828-261-2249 or acarson@hickorync.gov.



RECYCLING DROP-OFF CENTERS

The City of Hickory's Recycling Convenience Center is now open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. The convenience center is located next to C. Fred Hollar Fire Station (Station 2) at 1305 Ninth Avenue NE in Hickory and accepts aluminum cans; newspapers; green, brown, and clear glass; cardboard; Plastics #1 and #2; and mixed paper for recycling.



In addition to the Recycling Convenience Center on Ninth Avenue NE, the City of Hickory operates a second recycling drop-off center called the Solid Waste Transfer Station. This facility is located downtown at 1050 First Avenue SW and is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Solid Waste Transfer Station accepts aluminum cans; newspapers; green, brown, and clear glass; Plastics #1 and #2; cardboard; used motor oil; and antifreeze.

Residents are reminded that non-recyclable trash is not accepted at either of these facilities.

"We encourage all citizens to read the recycling tips on the City's website and be aware of what items can and cannot be recycled," stated Solid Waste Manager Andrew Ballentine. "How well our residents follow the proper requirements will directly determine the future of recycling here in Hickory."

For more information about residential recycling in the City of Hickory and important recycling tips, please visit <https://www.hickorync.gov/residential-recycling> or contact the Public Services Department at 828-323-7500.